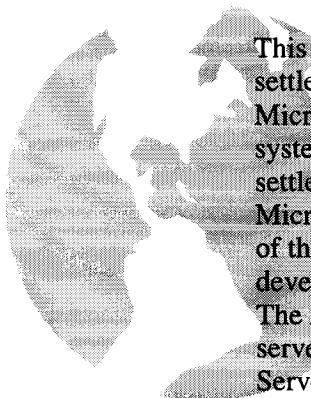


Brandon Galbraith
380 South Hickory Avenue
Bartlett IL 60103

December 14, 2001

Reneta B. Hesse
Antitrust Division
U. S. Department of Justice
601 D Street NW
Suite 1200
Washington DC 20530-0001


Dear Madam:



This letter is in regards to the proposed Microsoft settlement. In reading through the settlement agreement, I noticed that provisions are made to help commercial competitors of Microsoft get the information they need to write applications for the Windows™ operating system. While this is a step in the right direction, specific language needs to be added to the settlement agreement to allow not-for-profit competitors of Microsoft the same access to Microsoft intellectual property as commercial competitors. The reason for this is that some of the fiercest competition to Microsoft software comes from open source software being developed by not-for-profit organizations. One example of this is the Apache web server. The Apache web server, which is an open source software package, dominates the Internet server market. It is also a direct competitor of Microsoft's IIS or Internet Information Server (which is also a web server).

For there to be a level playing field between Microsoft and its competitors, not-for-profit groups who develop open source software that competes with Microsoft products should be given the same access to Microsoft's intellectual property as commercial competitors of Microsoft. Without this provision in the Microsoft settlement, not-for-profit groups would be effectively cut out of the picture, which would be a devastating loss.

Sincerely,



Brandon Galbraith
System Administrator